

*Amendments to the Claims:*

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

*Listing of Claims:*

1 through 225: Cancelled

226. (Previously submitted) A recombinant vector comprising a DNA regulatory element operably linked to a DNA molecule that encodes a wild-type human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, wherein the DNA molecule is capable of stable propagation in *E. coli*.

227. (Previously submitted) A recombinant vector comprising a DNA regulatory element operably linked to a DNA molecule encoding the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein of Figure 15 wherein the DNA molecule is capable of stable propagation in *E. coli* as a result of:

(a) said DNA regulatory element permitting maintenance of the DNA molecule in *E. coli* at a low copy number, or

(b) the nucleotide sequence of the DNA molecule being modified to disrupt its expression in *E. coli* while allowing its expression in mammalian cells.

228. (Amended) A DNA molecule comprising:

(a) a DNA sequence that encodes wild-type human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, and

(b) at least one regulatory element operably linked to said uninterrupted DNA sequence which element permits transcription of the uninterrupted DNA sequence in a host prokaryotic cell.

229. (Previously submitted) A DNA molecule according to claim 228 wherein said DNA sequence contains at least one silent mutation which stabilizes expression of the gene.

230. (Previously submitted) A plasmid comprising a DNA molecule according claim

- 228.
231. (Previously submitted) A host prokaryotic cell comprising a plasmid according claim 230.
232. (Previously submitted) A DNA molecule comprising:
- (a) an uninterrupted DNA sequence that encodes wild-type, human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein, and
  - (b) at least one regulatory element operably linked to said uninterrupted DNA sequence which element permits transcription of the uninterrupted DNA sequence in a host eukaryotic cell.
233. (Previously submitted) The DNA molecule according to claim 232 wherein said regulatory element DNA corresponds to at least a portion of the genome of a virus which portion is cable of infecting the host eukaryotic cell.
234. (Previously submitted) A recombinant vector according to claim 233 wherein the virus is a retrovirus.
235. (Previously submitted) A viral vector containing an encoding sequence for human CFTR.
- 236-237: Cancelled
238. (Previously submitted) A viable host *E. coli* cell that comprises a DNA sequence coding for human CFTR protein.
239. (Previously submitted) A host *E. coli* cell according to claim 238 that comprises a plasmid, itself comprising a CFTR-encoding DNA sequence, wherein said plasmid can be maintained and propagated in said cell.
240. (New) A DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes wild-type, human cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein wherein the DNA molecule is capable of stable prokaryotic propagation as a result of the nucleotide sequence of the DNA molecule being modified to disrupt prokaryotic expression while allowing its expression in mammalian cells.

241. (New) A DNA molecule according to claim 240 wherein the DNA molecule is modified by insertion of a synthetic intron.
242. (New) A DNA molecule according to claim 240 wherein the DNA molecule is modified by altering at least one sequence that has the potential to operate as a prokaryotic promoter sequence.

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